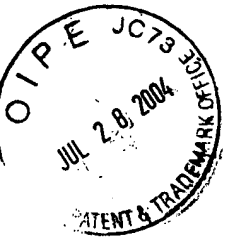


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REMARKS

Three new paragraphs have been added to the Brief Description of the Drawings portion of the specification in order to make the specification consistent with the Drawings.

Three new drawing figures were added in the amendment filed on December 12, 2002. In particular:

Figure 8 was added to illustrate an "elastic band at least partially extending along an opposed rim portion." Support for this amendment can be found in claim 15 and in the specification on page 10, line 10. The "elastic band" is illustrated in Figure 8 as element 256. Further, elastic bands are well known in the art. No new matter was added.

Figure 9 was added to illustrate a "latch means." The "latch means" is illustrated in Figure 9 as element 258. Support for this amendment can be found in claim 15 and in the specification on page 10, line 10. Further, latches are well known in the art. No new matter was added.

Figure 10 was added to illustrate "a full body respiratory suit" as element 260. Support for this amendment can be found in claim 40 and in the specification on page 5, line 21 - 26. Further, full body respiratory suits are well known in the art. No new matter was added.

This amendment is necessary to add a reference to these three drawings to the Brief Description of the Drawings portion of the specification. Only a reference to existing drawings is being made. No new matter is being added.

Summary

Entry of this amendment under the provisions of 37 CFR § 1.312 is respectfully requested because the amendment (A) is needed for proper disclosure or protection of the



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invention as noted in the Notice of Drawing Inconsistency With Specification, and (B) requires no substantial amount of additional work on the part of the Office.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of
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